

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

1. (currently amended) ~~Ball-point~~ A ball-point pen (1,11) comprising:

a tip (4);

a capillary channel (3) within the tip;

a hole (10) within the tip and connected to the capillary channel;

a reservoir (2) communicating with [[a]] the hole (10) connected to [[a]] the capillary channel (3) of [[a]] the tip (4);

a ball (5) for writing, the ball located with the tip;

~~which is provided with~~

a cavity (9) which seats the ball (5) for writing, the cavity having a retaining edge (9t);

a compression-resilient spring (6) extending through the hole and terminating in a straight portion (6r), which straight portion is aligned with the longitudinal axis (N-N) of the ball-point pen (1), the straight portion having a free end (6p) in contact with the ball (5),

~~this~~ the ball (5) being kept pressed against [[a]] the retaining edge (9t) of the abovementioned cavity (9) as a result

of the thrust of a compression-resilient spring (6); ~~terminating~~
~~in a straight portion (6r) which is aligned with the longitudinal~~
~~axis (N-N) of the ball point pen (1) and the free end (6p) of~~
~~which is in contact with the said ball (5),~~

~~wherein said capillary channel (3) has, inside it,~~
means

a narrow section of a locally radially decreased cross-
section (7,7') within the capillary channel ~~which,~~ coming into
contact with the ~~said~~ straight portion (6r) of the spring (6),
~~prevent it~~ the narrow section (7, 7') preventing the straight
portion of the spring from becoming inclined with respect to the
~~said~~ longitudinal axis (N-N) of the ball-point pen (1),

~~wherein the said capillary channel (3) has a~~
the narrow section (7,7') which, being passed through
in the axial direction by the ~~said~~ straight portion (6r) of the
spring (6), is ~~designed with dimensions~~ dimensioned such as to
contain said straight portion in an approximately complementary
manner with a minimum amount of play, substantially preventing
[[it]] said straight portion from assuming inclined positions
with respect to the ~~abovementioned~~ longitudinal axis (N-N), ~~and~~

wherein said straight portion (6r) consists of only a
single straight portion extending from a distalmost end in
contact with the ball (5) towards a coiled portion (6) of the
spring, the entire single straight portion being located on the
longitudinal axis (N-N) of the ball-point pen (1); and

a radial through-groove (8i) connecting the cavity seating the ball to hole, the radial through-groove being outside the narrow section (7,7') containing the straight portion.

2-3. (cancelled)

4. (currently amended) Ball-point pen according to claim 1, in which the ~~said~~ narrow section is formed by a cylindrical shaped restriction (7).

5. (currently amended, Withdrawn) Ball-point pen according to claim 1, in which the ~~said~~ narrow section is defined by a ring (12) with a semi-circular cross section projecting towards the inside of the capillary channel (3) having its axis coinciding with the longitudinal axis (N-N) of the ball-point pen (1).

6. (currently amended) Ball-point pen according to claim 3, in which the ~~said~~ narrow section is formed by a cylindrical shaped restriction (7).

7. (currently amended, Withdrawn) Ball-point pen according to claim 3, in which the ~~said~~ narrow section is defined by a ring (12) with a semi-circular cross section projecting towards the inside of the capillary channel (3) having its axis coinciding with the longitudinal axis (N-N) of the ball-point pen (1).

8. (currently amended) Ball-point pen according to claim 1, wherein a cross section through the ~~said~~ narrow section (7,7') on a plane perpendicular to the longitudinal axis (N-N) defines a circular opening surrounding said straight portion (6r).